

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 00047 041030Z

ACTION EB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 68

INOF RUFHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 721

S E C R E T AMMAN 0047

LIMDIS

ROME FOR CIVIL AIR ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, US, JO, SY

SUBJECT: TALK WITH KING HUSSEIN - CIVIL AIR QUESTIONS

REF (A) STATE 246091, (B) AMMAN 6313, (C) FAA 282112Z DEC 76

1. DURING MY DISCUSSION WITH KING HUSSEIN JANUARY 3
HE ASKED ME TO PASS ALONG TO ALL CONCERNED IN WASHINGTON
HIS SPECIAL THANKS FOR THE HELPFUL POSITION TAKEN ON
THE US-JORDAN-SYRIA CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS.

2. THE KING SAID THAT IN THIS CONNECTION HE HAD
SPENT THE MORNING WITH HIA AIRLINE AND CIVIL AIR
AUTHORITIES. AS A RESULT OF THAT MEETING, HE HAD
COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
THAT JORDAN REVIEW ALL OF ITS CIVIL AIR ACTIVITIES
WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF MAXIMIZING EFFICIENCY AND
SAFETY. IN THIS CONNECTION HE VERY MUCH WANTED TO
HAVE AN FAA TEAM COME TO JORDAN TO REVIEW IN
PARTICULAR THE OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIS
CIVIL AIRLINE, THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING OF
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THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIAL AVIATION, AND THE ACTIVITIES
AND OPERATIONS OF HIS AIRPORTS, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL,
AND AIDS TO AIR NAVIGATION.

3. HE TOLD ME THAT HE WAS INFORMING ME IN ADVANCE
OF HIS DEEP PERSONAL INTEREST IN HAVING SUCH A TEAM
COME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THAT THE PRIME

MINISTER WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME DIRECTLY TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL REQUEST.

4. I TOLD THE KING I WOULD REPORT HIS INTEREST IMMEDIATELY AND WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING THE REQUEST FROM PRIME MINISTER BADRAN. THE KING NOTED AT THE END OF OUR DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT THAT HE WAS VERY CONCERNED THAT JORDAN AIR ACTIVITIES MEET ALL US STANDARDS AND THE JORDAN TAKE EVERY STEP NECESSARY TO INSURE MAXIMUM SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY.

5. WHILE KING INTENDS TO HAVE PRIME MINISTER FOLLOW UP ON THIS REQUEST, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR AN EARLY INDICATION ON THE AVAILABILITY OF AN FAA TEAM DESIGNED TO CARRY OUT AN INSPECTION AND MAKE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS. KING DID NOT MENTION AND I DID NOT RAISE WITH HIM THE QUESTION OF FUNDING; HOWEVER IF WE CAN HAVE AN EARLY INDICATION OF WHAT MIGHT BE REQUIRED, I CAN PURSUE THIS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

6. WE NOTE FROM REFTELS THAT THERE IS OUTSTANDING REQUEST FROM GOJ DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION FOR FAA ASSISTANCE AND THAT FAA PROPOSED SENDING DR. STRICKLER TO JORDAN IN FEBRUARY/MARCH TIMEFRAME. WE ASSUME KING'S REQUEST STEMS FROM DISCUSSIONS GOJ AVIATION AUTHORITIES WHO MAY HAVE STIMULATED EARLIER REQUEST, BUT HIS INTEREST IN LARGER TEAM SEEMS TO
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HAVE SUPPLEMENTED EARLIER IDEA OF REFTELS.
PICKERING

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